

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

February 26th, 2017

“Teach me thy way, O
LORD; I will walk in thy
truth: unite my heart to
fear thy name.”

PSALM 86:11



New on our bookshelf... John Bunyan's

“The Saints Knowledge of Christ’s Love”

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT

bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

** On the first Sunday of each month, we will observe the Lord's Table in the 11:00 am service and then have lunch in the fellowship building.*

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

This evening's podcast speaker will be from our PASTOR

PETER 2:10-22 — "...THE WAY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS..."

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

***Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

ARE YOU TEMPTED?

"HE WAS TEMPTED IN ALL POINTS, LIKE AS WE ARE, YET WITHOUT SIN"
HEBREWS 4:15

[Beloved], Are we tempted to distrust God? so was [the Lord Jesus Christ]: are we tempted to murder ourselves? so was He: are we tempted with the bewitching vanities of this world? so was He: are we tempted to commit idolatry, and to worship the devil? so was He (MATTHEW 4:3-10; LUKE 4:1-13). So that herein we also were alike; yea, from His cradle to His cross He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with griefs, a man of affliction throughout the whole course of His life.

And observe it, He was made so, or subjected thereto by the ordinance of God; nay, further, it behoved Him to be made so, that is, to be made like unto us in all things, the better to capacitate Him to the work of His priesthood, with the more bowels and compassion. We will read to you the text; *"Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be,"* qualified to be, *"a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of [His] people. For in that He himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted"* (HEBREWS 2:17,18). PASTOR **JOHN BUYNAN** (1948 – 2011)

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (HEBREWS 4:16)

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JOY IN TRIAL

"MY BRETHREN, COUNT IT ALL JOY WHEN YE FALL INTO DIVERS TEMPTATIONS."
JAMES 1:2

How can we truly consider it [*all joy*] to experience a trial? There is a part of us that dreads the thought of a trial in any form. Can we really count it all joy? Yes, we can, if we are children of God. Here are four reasons:

(I.) **It is God that sends the trial.** If it were the devil, or simply circumstances beyond our control, we could dread the very thought of a trial in any form. But it is our heavenly Father that sends it. Whatever comes our way, is sent of God. It was God who brought up Job to Satan, and not Satan who brought up Job to God.

(II.) **When God sends a trial our way,** it is because we need it. Peter said, Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations. Every trial God sends our way has a needs be. It is for our good, and His glory. **Romans 8:28.**

(III.) **Trials develop character.** The trying of your faith worketh patience. Trials put our faith to the test, and teach us to simply trust our Heavenly Father. Paul said in **Romans 5:34**, *"We glory in tribulations [trials] also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience: and patience experience: and experience hope."* Trials are used by God to develop our character and strengthen our faith.

(IV.) **Trials are a part of true sonship.** **Hebrews 12:6-8**, *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons."*

We do not joy in the trial itself, but we do rejoice in Who sends it, why He sent it, and what the results will be. We don't ask for trials, but they are good for us.

PASTOR **TODD NIBERT**

DULL OF HEARING

“...YE ARE DULL OF HEARING.” (HEBREWS 9:7)

Mr. Webster’s definition of the word dull is Lacking zest or vivacity. Listless. Slow in action. Sluggish. Marked by little activity. Lacking in force or intensity. My definition would be Not interested. [When] we...hear...gospel [preaching], may we be careful lest we be found dull of hearing. If we used the same intensity in our jobs as we exhibit toward the Word of God, we never would learn how to perform them.

The apostle is speaking of Christ. There were many things pertaining to His Priesthood which were of deep importance, of great value, and most necessary to know. These Hebrew Christians had come to the place of mental listlessness. To a person in this state it is very hard to explain anything. This was not always so. When the gospel was first preached to them it aroused their attention and their thoughts, but now it had become commonplace. They felt they knew all about it, therefore they paid no attention to it.

The Greek word for *dull* is translated *slothful* in **Hebrews 6:12**. These people had become mentally and spiritually what loafers are in the natural world, too lazy to make any effort at improvement. Because of their slothfulness it was impossible to lead them on to higher truth. Don’t ever allow yourself to lose interest in growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Truth has to be bought. **Proverbs 23:23** “*Buy the truth and sell it not.*” What is the price? Diligent study and application and trouble. The Lord won’t hold us down and pour knowledge in us, or teach us in a dream or a vision. Many in churches where the truth is preached are dull of hearing. To hear the same man for years becomes so commonplace that some tend to count it as nothing. Wait! What is he saying? If he tells you the wonderful news of the Savior, love it all the more over the years. If it gets old and stale, you are in trouble.

Just to think that our blessed Redeemer can become commonplace is frightening. Yet, knowing my own heart and yours, it can take place. May we hear in the coming days with all the intensity of heart love for our Lord Jesus.

PASTOR **JACK SHANKS** (1929 — 2012)